

CLAIMS

What is claimed as invention is:

1. An agitated direct steam continuous cooker apparatus comprising:

5 a cooker body portion having an inlet end and an outlet end; and

means for selectively elevating said outlet end relative to said inlet end at an angle of between 0 to 90 degrees, wherein food product may be pumped into said inlet end of said cooker body and discharged out of said outlet end of said cooker body, to improve mixing and reduce compaction of different food products.

10 2. The agitated continuous cooker apparatus of claim 1 wherein said cooker body portion is positioned at an angle of approximately 45 degrees relative to horizontal.

15 3. The agitated continuous cooker apparatus of claim 1 wherein said means for elevating comprises extensible supports.

4. The agitated continuous cooker apparatus of claim 1 wherein said cooker body portion is modular.

20 5. A method for cooking food product in an agitated direct steam continuous cooker apparatus, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a cooker body portion having an inlet end and an outlet end;
elevating the outlet end relative to the inlet end at an angle of between 0 to
90 degrees; and

pumping food product into the inlet end of the cooker body and
5 discharging it out of the outlet end of the cooker body, to improve mixing and reduce compaction
of different food products.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the cooker body outlet end is elevated so that
the cooker body is positioned at an angle of approximately 45 degrees relative to horizontal.
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7. The method of claim 5 wherein said step of elevating the outlet end comprises
extending supports beneath one end of the cooker body.

8. The method of claim 5 wherein said step of elevating the outlet end comprises
15 selectively tilting the cooker body to the angle that is most effective for the particular food
product being cooked..

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